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Editorial Notes.

On behalf of a thousand recipients of a pamphlet on Plague, by Hakim Dr. Muhammad Shareef of Lahore, the Núr Afshán desires to thank the author. His liberality and enterprise entitle him to public notice. He has distributed over 80,000 copies gratis.

We are again indebted to Dr. John Murdoch of Madras for a most interesting and instructive pamphlet (pp. 72, price 3, as) on INDIA'S THREE GREAT EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND HOW TO PROVIDE THEM. These three great needs are Agricultural, Industrial and Moral education. To provide for these needs the author suggests that representatives of Agriculture, Manufactures and Education in the Viceroy's Council would be a great help. The author very justly remarks that,

"Considering the very onerous duties of the Viceroy and that he is generally a stranger to the country, it is very desirable that he should have a Cabinet somewhat like that of the Prime Minister of England.

At present the Military Element in the Council is too powerful—two members out of six, exclusive of the Viceroy. Had the proportion been smaller, perhaps some of the frontier wars might have been avoided and the military expenditure considerably reduced. At all events, by the proposed change three great interests—Agriculture, Manufactures, and Education—would receive greatly increased attention.

There are would-be politicians whose only idea of statesmanship is cheese-paring economy, whereas sometimes a wise expenditure is far preferable.

It is believed that intelligent thoughtful men, on careful consideration, will see that the influence of the proposed change would be far-reaching and most beneficial.

Nearly every civilized country in the world has its Ministers of Agriculture, Commerce, and Education. Much more are they needed in India, with its vast population."

THE INDIAN WITNESS has gone on the war path after our neighbour the *Arya Messenger*. Sometime since, the latter paper, in order to account for the marvellous growth of the Christian Church, related a "cock and bull story" about a missionary, who "once found to his grief at the end of the year, when he was required to submit his report to the Board at home, that he had not made even a single convert during the year"! The story goes on to tell how the padre sent his servant to find a poor old Chamar beggar and, by the offer of alms, persuaded him to be baptised. He then reported the baptism as that of "a high caste Brahmin!"

The *Indian Witness* pronounces this story as not only false but as "a deliberate invention." He goes on to say,

"If the editor of the *Arya Messenger* will name the missionary who figures as the hero in his tale, and will prove the truth of the story to the satisfaction of a missionary to be named by us and a member of the *Arya Somaj* to be named by the *Arya Messenger*, we hereby promise to publish a humble apology in these columns and to pay Rupees Fifty to any Charitable Institution, which that paper may indicate. Until the required proof is forthcoming, we stand by our deliberate charge made in the foregoing lines—that the *Arya Messenger* deliberately published what it could not but believe was false."

This is a serious charge and we shall await the reply with some interest. That the story is absolutely false, there can be no doubt. Missionaries are not pledged to their Boards to make converts. Their business is to preach the Gospel. Many a man spends years in a foreign field without ever reporting a convert. The fact that such a story could be published by an *Arya* organ, shows their helplessness to explain away the large accessions to the Christian Churches, during the Decade just gone by.

Mr. Prajapaye, a young Brahmin of Poona, who has passed out as Senior Wrangler, and might have easily entered Civil Service, has devoted himself to the cause of Education on a poor salary. This is a noble example, worthy of imitation by many others. How many of our Christian young men might well study this young man's decision and devote themselves to the education of their countrymen.

Prof. Cesare Lombroso recently had an opportunity to test scientifically the effect of alcohol in developing latent criminal tendencies. The subject of his experiments was a man who had surrendered himself to the police with the avowal that anarchists wished to make him their instrument for assassinating the King of Italy. The man seemed sane, but no corroboration of his story could be obtained. Unexpectedly, after drinking wine, he broke out into anarcho-bic threats. Acting upon this hint, Professor Lombroso administered alcohol to him in carefully measured quantities, and discovered that after he had drunk a certain amount he developed violent criminal tendencies, all recollection of which appeared to have vanished from his mind when the effects of the alcohol had passed off.

MADE IN JAPAN

Living Witnesses.

ANOTHER HINDU WITNESS: continued.

Chuni Lal, though as yet unacquainted with the Word of God, could not help noticing the secret working of the poison by a sudden hardening of his heart, which caused him compunction and sorrow. He confided in a friend, who advised him to attend the anniversary meetings of the Brahmos at Lahore in October. He went, and one day joined the Brahmos in the Pandits' sanctuary, at one of their private prayer-meetings, at which members seated on little mats of sacred Kusha-grass, leopard-skins and a piece of red broad-cloth, were pouring forth their mantras and extempore prayers. Chuni Lal noticed a young girl who wept and prayed most actively. He attempted to offer up a prayer for the forgiveness of his sins; but, hearing the sobing and sighing of the girl, he broke down and wept like a child.

In the evening, the Pandit preached a sermon in Hindustani in the Brahmo mandir, to an audience of about 200 persons. After the service, the aforementioned girl came out from behind a screen, and in a prayer publicly confessed her sins to God, and was the same day enrolled as a member of the Panjab Brahmo Samaj. Chuni Lal then stood forth and made the following public confession: "From henceforth I will not live to myself, but unto God and for the welfare of His creatures, and should I even have to give up my life I am quite ready to surrender it in the service of God."

For several days, he experienced a great restlessness within, in consequence of which he had peace day or night. Three days after, on the 29th Oct. 1884, as he was sitting and listening to the prayer of Pandit Agnihotri in the latter's "Sanctuary," silently meditating on the awful greatness and the majesty of the Parmipita Permesbar (the great Father and God), Chuni Lal felt as if the gloom and darkness of his soul were passing away. A sudden stream of light entered and filled him with light and joy. His heart was so full of ecstasy that, entirely forgetting the solemn surrounding, he burst out in a loud expression of joy. He thought he heard a voice saying to him: "If thou wilt give up all to me, then I will make thee my own." He offered up a short prayer, in which he asked God to grant him a similar joy on the day of his "Sanyas" (ordination to the apostolic life of a Brahmo devotee). The next day, he returned to Feroz-

pore, and on arrival announced that he intended to give up the law courts. Great disappointment spread among his relatives when they heard of this determination to become a Brahmo preacher and Sanyasi. They tried means fair and foul to dissuade him from the step. Force was used. His father threatened to commit suicide, his wife attacked and maltreated him. He was neither allowed to pray in the house nor to leave it. Even the boys in the streets hooted and abused him whenever they got sight of him. His only answer to his relation was, "You may do what you like, even kill me, but I cannot withdraw from my solemn promise to serve God."

To be continued.

Current Thought & Incident.

WHO WAS JESUS CHRIST. Continued.

2. Consider Christ's Person as it was seen by His enemies and friends. Now I bid you observe how both received from His words the very impression which I assume He intended to convey by them.

His enemies did so, and alleged that He claimed to be Divine in the strictest sense of that word; accordingly they attempted to stone Him, and in the end put Him to death on the very ground that He was a blasphemer. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM. "I and my Father are one." Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from the Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? The Jews answered him, saying, For a good we stone thee not, but for blasphemy, and because that thou being a man, makest thyself God. "If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works; that ye may know and believe that the Father is in me, and I in him. Therefore they sought again to take him; but he escaped out of their hand." "The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God." "And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witnesses against thee? But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered

* "And he that blasphemeth the name of the Lord, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the Lord, shall be put to death."—Lev. xxiv. 16.

and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that you tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless, I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy. What think ye? They answered and said, He is guilty of death. Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands.

Nor did the friends of Jesus endeavour to undeceive His accusers. They did not say, "You have misunderstood His meaning. He is not guilty of such blasphemy. He is a man like us, and does not claim to be one with God, as you understand Him to do." Instead of this, they too recognised His claims as divine, and worshipped, loved, served, and preached Him accordingly. I will return to this part the subject afterwards. I remind only the reader of it in passing.

But before the force of such teaching as this of our Lord's can in any degree be appreciated, two things should be borne in mind: one is, the previous training of the Jewish nation with reference to the being and character of God; and the other is, the moral character of Jesus.

As to the first of those points, remember only how, from the very beginning, God had revealed Himself—that men might know the One living and true God; and worship and serve Him alone with heart, soul, and strength. This was the lesson of all lessons. This was the mighty theme of all God's teaching and training of His people, from Adam to Christ, by patriarchs, kings, and prophets; by national blessings and national judgments; by captivities and restorations. On the other hand, the sin of all sins was idolatry; not the bowing down to stocks or stones merely, but the giving in any degree, that glory to another which belonged exclusively to the One living and true God. Had not their whole history been determined by their adherence to God, or their falling away to idolatry? Enter, then, into the Jewish mind with reference to this training. Think how hallowed God's name was above every other name—how enshrined it was in the very holy of holies of the national faith, and how it had become so only after a discipline of much suffering, prolonged through many centuries, until at last idolatry had been banished on the return from Babylon;—think of this

while you read those utterances I have quoted of a Jew to Jews. Do you wonder that they called Him a blasphemer? For so, indeed, He certainly was, unless He was Divine.

To be continued.

Lord's Prayer in Thirty-Two Languages.

The Russians now have possession of the Mount of Olives, the spot where the Lord's Prayer was first uttered. The apex of the mount is nearly 200 feet above the hill upon which Jerusalem is built, 2,700 feet above the level of the Mediterranean, and 3,900 feet above the sluggish waters of the Dead Sea. On this elevation, upon the exact spot which tradition says the prayer was first spoken, the Carmelite sisters have, through the kindness of Mme. de la Tour d'Anvergne, who furnished the necessary funds, built a large convent. The exact, or what is claimed to be exact spot pressed by our Saviour's feet on that celebrated occasion, is marked by a pure white polished marble cross, and the walls of the convent have the prayer inscribed on them in thirty-two different languages. In some instances, the letters forming the prayer are engraved in marble panels; in others they are letters of wood glued to backgrounds suitable to their colors. The Russian portion of this wonderful collection of inscriptions is said to be in letters of pure gold, each capital stem being six and one-fourth inches long and four-fifths of an inch in width. Among the languages, which one would hardly expect to find represented, are the Hebrew, the Chinese, the Coptic, the Tartarian, and Japanese. The Arabian, as if it had been a task to relinquish Mohammedanism, ends with "Great is Christ."

Missionary Outlook.

Curious Things Worth Knowing.

The first lighthouse in England was built by Julius Cæsar, on the tops of cliffs near Dover. This very building is still standing, though parts of it have been renewed. Who is historian enough to tell who Julius Cæsar was, and how long ago he built the lighthouse?

Most of the roads in China were made two thousand years ago. They were very fine roads then, but have never been repaired since. Naturally now, they can scarcely be called "roads" at all, they are so full of holes.

Neither cold nor boiling water, ether, alcohol, ammonia, nor the stronger acids that will eat holes

through other substances, can dissolve a sponge or alter its nature.

The creatures that will dwell in arctic countries have generally white or light fur. One reason for this is because they can thus be less easily distinguished by their enemies. In warmer countries there are other animals that are called albinos. These lack some of the usual coloring matter of the skin, hair, etc. These are white mice, white rabbits, white elephants, and even some people that are albinos, but only lately has an albino reptile been found. This was in England two years ago. A gardener, digging in well-tilled soil at a depth of two and one-half feet deep, found a common English ringed snake. It was pure white with bright ruby red eyes. All pure albinos are perfectly white with red eyes, in which the pupil is red and the iris either pink or light blue. In human beings the skin is like milk and the hair the same shade.

Deer Live to a Great Age.

Romance has played a prominent part with regard to the longevity of deer. What says the Highland adage?

"Thrice the age of a dog is that of a horse, Thrice the age of a horse is that of a man, Thrice the age of a man is that of a deer, Thrice the age of a deer is that of an eagle, Thrice the age of an eagle is that of an oak tree."

This is to assign the deer a period of more than two hundred years, and the estimate is supported by many highly circumstantial stories. Thus, Captain McDonald, of Tulloch, who died in 1774, aged eighty-six years, is said to have known the white hind of Loch Trieg for fifty years, his father for a like period before him, his grandfather for sixty years before him. So in 1826 MacDonald, of Glengarry, is reported to have killed a stag which bore a mark on the left ear identical with that made on all the calves he could catch by Ewan Maclean Og, who had been dead one hundred and fifty years. Analogous stories, it may be noted, are told in countries on the Continent of Europe, where deer are to be found in any number.—Chambers' Journal.

Did His Duty.

One never regrets doing his duty, even though it may be hard at the time. The sentinel, in the following story from the Union Gospel News, might have reasoned that "of course the Emperor meant human beings,"

but the end showed that he did just the right thing.

At a time of great danger Napoleon once gave an order to the pickets stationed at the outposts of his camp not to allow anything to pass them. The long, dark hours of the night wore slowly away and the faithful sentinels kept close watch for the appearance of an enemy, when just before daylight a large dog was seen approaching one of the guards.

The animal was ordered back, but with every demonstration of affection he persisted in passing the forbidden boundary. True to his trust, the soldier raised his gun and fired, the poor creature fell dead.

The report of the shot echoed along the lines, and the camp was awake in an instant to meet the impending danger. But when it was found to be only a dog, and the missing dog of one of the officers, do you think the faithful sentinel regretted obeying his orders? No, indeed; and when a dead spy was found nicely concealed beneath the skin of the animal he was doubly thanked that he did his duty.

The source of Japan's progress, industrially as well as commercially, must be looked for (says a German contemporary) in the marvelous development of her schools. Since the introduction of the Board of Education in Japan, in the year 1871, nearly 30,000 elementary schools have been established, in which about 4,000,000 scholars are educated. Compulsory education has been in operation since the year 1880 for all children between the ages of six and ten but school fees are still raised at the present time. In 1888 there were 45 seminaries or colleges in existence in Japan, with 4,416 male and 662 female students.

God never places us in any position in which we cannot grow. We may fancy we are so impeded by fretting petty cares that we are gaining nothing; but when we are not sending any branches upward, we may be sending roots downward. Perhaps in the time of our humiliation, when everything seems a failure, we are marking the best kind of progress.—Elizabeth Prentiss.

The benefits of British rule in Egypt were tersely expressed by the Premier, Nubar Pasha, who said: "Egypt's chief needs were two—justice and water—and England is providing the one by her administration, and the other by her great dams on the Nile."

Telegrams.

London, Feb. 22.
De Wet with a force 400 strong, broke back northward through the blackhouse line on the night of the 10th instant, ten miles west of Lindley and is now north of Reitz in his old haunts at Liedebengvlei.

Lord Kitchener reports that Colonel Park with 300 National Scouts surprised and captured 164 Boers at Nooitgedacht. There were no casualties.

Upwards of 1,200 troops embarked for the Cape at Southampton to-day.

London, Feb. 23.
The laagers surprised by Colonel Park contained the so-called Boer "Government," who, however, escaped.

London, Feb. 23.
Prince Henry has arrived at New York.

London, Feb. 22.
Terrible weather prevails in the Atlantic. The *Kronprinz Wilhelm* with Prince Henry on board, due at New York to-day, has not arrived yet.

London, Feb. 22.
The trial on the Liverpool Bank Frauds has concluded, and the sentences passed are as follows:—Guide and Burge ten years and Kelly and Stiles two years each.

London, Feb. 23.
There is a general subsidence of excitement in Spain, although trade in Barcelona continues at a standstill.

London, Feb. 23.
Miss Stone, the missionary who has been a prisoner in the hands of brigands for some months, has been released, and has arrived at St. Rumnizza.

London, Feb. 23.
A fire at the Armoury, New York, spread to a hotel in a fearful night with heavy gale and sleet. Many inmates jumped from the fifty storey, and fifteen perished and fifty were injured.

London, Feb. 24.
A special telegram to the *Indian Daily News* says:—
Signor Marconi, addressing the shareholders of the Company which is pushing his system of wireless telegraphy, claimed that he had discovered the means of securing secrecy and ensuring increased speed. He is sanguine of the complete success of the system, despite the opposition of the Cable Companies.

Rangoon, Feb. 24.
Mr. Lightly, a young officer who had recently come out from Home to the West Riding Regiment, while riding down Kokine Hill on Sunday afternoon was thrown heavily by his horse shying, and was instantly killed.

Leknow, Feb. 23.
Yesterday, during the assault-at-arms, a team of B. Battery, R. H. A., were competing in the Artillery driving competition when on taking a sharp curve the limber and a gun overbalanced and the two wheelers with Driver Keene went over. Keen fell under the limber, which crushed him horribly, and on arrival of medical men life was pronounced extinct. The assault-at-

arms, was stopped, by order of General Sir W. Meiklejohn, the remainder of the events being quashed, as also the prize distribution.

The deceased was a fine young fellow and very popular in his Battery.

London, Feb. 24.
On the night of the 19th instant 300 Boers attacked the Frankfort-Vrede blockhouse line at Tweekopje, supported by a number of Boers from the South. The enemy broke the fence by driving cattle through, and then rushed through under a heavy fire from the blockhouse.

Many were shot and carried off.

De Wet is now at Wilge River station. In the House of Lords Lord Tweedmouth brought forward a motion to appoint a Joint Committee to enquire into all the War Office and South African contracts. The motion was rejected by 88 against 25.

London, Feb. 24.
Replying to the American protests against the acquisition of exclusive Russian privileges in Manchuria, the Russian and Chinese Governments have assured America that Manchuria will remain open to American trade.

London, Feb. 24.
Prince Henry has had a cordial reception, and was welcomed by representatives of President Roosevelt, the Army and the navy.

Prince Henry is at Washington and has visited President Roosevelt. His Royal Highness is winning the good opinion of all by his cheery and informal manners.

London, Feb. 24.
The Ministry have withdrawn their resignations and asked the Chamber for a vote of confidence.

London, Feb. 24.
Canon Gore has been consecrated Bishop of Worcester in the Private Chapel at Lambeth Palace.

London, Feb. 25.
Lord Kitchener's weekly report states 32 Boers as killed and wounded, and 483 surrenders and prisoners.

London, Feb. 25.
The Canadian Royal Commission on Chinese and Japanese immigration has recommended an increase in the entry tax on Chinese from 100 to 500 dollars. The report on Japanese is not yet ready.

London, Feb. 25.
Miss Alice Roosevelt to-day christened the Emperor Williams yacht "Meteor" in New York harbour, and then severed the rope when the *Meteor* glided into the water amid cannon-firing, band playing, and cheers.

London, Feb. 25.
Lord George Hamilton, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that the press rate to India would be reduced to shilling.

London, Feb. 23.
Mr. Balfour and Mr. Long, and Lord Cranborne and Lord Halsbury, are ill with influenza.

London, Feb. 25.
Business is being resumed at Barcelona.

London, Feb. 25.
The American Senate has passed the Philippines tariff.

Bombay, Feb. 25.
The *Times of India* mentions a rumour current in England that the post of Minister of Education in India has been conferred on Mr. H. W. Orange, a young gentleman in receipt of £150 yearly as private Secretary of Sir George Kekewich of the Board of Education. It says that the gaiety of Cambridge would be eclipsed if Mr. Oscar Browning, the friend of quite nice Emperors, was lured to attempt to control anything save the movements of celebrities on the banks of the Cam.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A Brahmin who arrived from the village of Lahora in Ludhiana at 10 p. m. on the 20th February and stayed on Tuesday night at Mohammad Shaffi's Serai in Anarkali was found yesterday morning to be suffering from plague. He has been removed to the Plague Hospital and the room he occupied in the serai has been disinfected.

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